

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/068,587

Examiner

Kevin D. Williams

Applicant(s)

NISNEVICH, LEV

Art Unit

2854

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the telephone interview of 5/18/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 4-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Stone on 5/18/2004.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- Claim 3 has been canceled.
- In claim 12, line 1, "3" has been deleted and replaced with --1--.
- Claim 1 has been deleted and rewritten as follows:

1. An apparatus for treatment of a flat surface, the apparatus comprising a support assembly for supporting a treatment tool, said treatment tool being capable of application to a flat surface, wherein said support assembly is designed to be brought into contact with said flat surface and operable for step-by-step reciprocating movement along said flat surface, wherein said support assembly comprises:

a. A first unit and a second unit that float relative to each other, and are above said flat surface, said first unit or said second unit carrying a treatment tool positioned with appropriate friction on said flat surface to be treated with said treatment tool, wherein said treatment tool is selected from the group comprising a printing tool, a scanner, a pantograph, a cutter, a laser and an engraver;

b. A spring system connected to each unit for holding the units as close to each other as possible;

c. Two parallel axles with cams at each corner of said support assembly, the cams being capable of creating vertical and horizontal motion of said first and second units with respect to each other; and

d. An electromechanical mechanism, which is commanded from outside of the apparatus, said electromechanical mechanism providing rotational, synchronized motion to said parallel axles,

wherein the movement of the support assembly is a sequence of discrete steps, each one comprised of the following stages: said first unit being raised relative to said second unit, moving a full step forward and lowering back to said flat surface; said second unit being raised relative to said first unit and thereby moving a full step forward and lowering back to said flat surface; and after said discrete steps, treatment is capable of activation when both units are on said flat surface.

3. The above changes have been made in order to clarify the language of the claims and to correct the dependency of claim 12.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin D. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-2172. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone

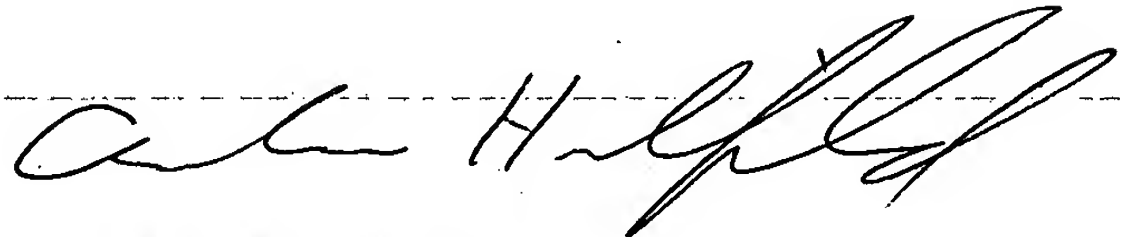
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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KDW
May 20, 2004



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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